United Nations E/CN.7/2016/L.10

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
15 February 2016

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Fifty-ninth session
Vienna, 14-22 March 2016
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Germany, Peru and Thailand: draft resolution

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the world drug problem must be addressed in accordance with the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[1] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[2] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[3] which constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

Reaffirming also that development-oriented drug policies and programmes should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human

* E/CN.7/2016/1.
[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[2] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[3] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

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Rights[4] and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States, as well as the principle of common and shared responsibility and the Sustainable Development Goals,[5] and taking into account the specific situations of countries and regions,

Reaffirming further the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[6] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[7]

Reaffirming the commitments contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[8] adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, as well as the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[9] adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013, in which it adopted the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development[10] and encouraged Member States, international organizations, international financial institutions, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take into account those Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development programmes,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 52/6 of 20 March 2009, 53/6 of 12 March 2010, 54/4 of 25 March 2011, 55/4 of 16 March 2012, 57/1 of 21 March 2014 and 58/4 of 17 March 2015,

Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[11] in particular Goals 1 to 6, 8, 10, 13 and 15 to 17, to whose achievement the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development will contribute directly,

Recognizing the importance of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held from 19 to 21 April 2016 as a milestone on the way to 2019, the target date in the Political Declaration for the review of implementation,

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[4] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[5] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.

[6] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

[7] General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[10] General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

[11] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

Taking note of the report of the international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development,[12] which contains key conclusions and recommendations drawn from the field visits, the seminar/workshop and the high-level International Conference, and noting in particular the alternative development projects, as seen in the field visits, focused on enhancing individual and community resilience and recognized as an example of the sufficiency economy policy of the King of Thailand,

Reaffirming that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, that it is an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges, that it is a choice in favour of societies that are free of drug abuse and that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production,

Noting with concern that overall financial support for alternative development projects and programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, has only accounted for a minor share of official development assistance and has reached only a minor percentage of communities and households involved in illicit drug crop cultivation around the world,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the international seminar/workshop and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai and Bangkok, Thailand, and Shan State, Myanmar, from 19 to 24 November 2015 and hosted by the Government of Thailand, in collaboration with the Government of Germany, the Government of Myanmar and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

2. *Urges* Member States to integrate comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, which is an integral component of national drug control policies and strategies, into national development policies and strategies, as appropriate, in order to address socioeconomic factors and provide sustainable alternative livelihoods and significantly contribute to the building of inclusive and just societies in order to reduce inequality within and among countries;

3. *Also urges* Member States to formulate and implement comprehensive and sustainable alternative development strategies and policies by taking into account the specific needs of the communities and groups affected by the illicit cultivation of crops used for drug production and manufacture, within the broader framework of national policies;

4. *Stresses* that comprehensive and sustainable alternative development must have a people-centred approach that focuses on empowering and encouraging ownership by local communities, including women, children and young people, when designing and implementing alternative development programmes and projects, and that the effective cooperation of all stakeholders in the entire alternative development process is crucial for the success of alternative development;

[12] E/CN.7/2016/13, annex.

5. *Also stresses* that comprehensive and sustainable alternative development increases the State's presence, builds trust between communities and government and, in some cases, promotes peace and a culture of lawfulness and should be included in further discussions in the areas of good governance and the rule of law and human security;

6 *Encourages* Member States to ensure the proper and coordinated sequencing of development interventions when designing alternative development programmes;

7. *Stresses* that access to productive land and land rights, including formal and informal land tenure systems, should be promoted and protected in the implementation of alternative development programmes with the full participation of and in consultation with local communities;

8. *Emphasizes* that the marketability of products should be assessed before implementing alternative development programmes and, where applicable, alternative development products should be aimed at creating value-added chains to enable target communities to obtain higher incomes in order to support sustainable livelihoods and compete with income generated from illicit crop cultivation;

9. *Urges* the international and scientific community to develop specific alternative development strategies and recommendations for populations of different climatic and cultural conditions, including advice on marketing new products;

10. *Calls upon* Member States to take the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development[13] into due consideration when designing, implementing and evaluating alternative development programmes and projects, including preventive alternative development programmes and projects, as appropriate, and calls upon Member States with experience in this area to share outcomes and lessons learned, thereby contributing to the dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles;

11. *Urges* Member States to sustain political will and a long-term commitment with regard to implementing alternative development and to continue engaging in dialogue and cooperation with relevant stakeholders, from local communities and authorities to policymakers at the national and regional levels;

12. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to increase their rural development support for regions and populations affected by the illicit cultivation of drug crops through long-term and flexible funding, and encourages affected States, to the extent possible, to remain strongly committed to financing alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate;

13. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

14. *Encourages* close collaboration among the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, all relevant United Nations entities and specialized agencies and

[13] General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

other international and regional organizations in order to enhance system-wide coherence, and encourages development agencies, donors and financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to share information and best practices, promote research and increase efforts to promote alternative development;

15. *Recognizes* that more research is needed to better understand factors contributing to the emergence of illicit crop cultivation and to improve impact assessments of alternative development programmes;

16. *Reiterates* that the sustainability of alternative development programmes should be measured not only by a reduction in illicit cultivation but also by indicators related to human development, socioeconomic conditions, alleviation of poverty and environmental sustainability, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals,[14] and that evidence-based impact assessments of alternative development programmes could help engage the broader development community and render support to alternative development efforts;

17. *Calls upon* Member States and other donors to consider providing long-term support to alternative development programmes and projects, including preventive alternative development programmes and projects, that target the illicit cultivation of crops, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication, including through enhanced development-oriented approaches that implement measures for rural development, strengthen local governments and institutions, improve infrastructure, promote the participation of local communities, enhance the empowerment of people and strengthen communities' resilience;

18. *Encourages* Member States to maintain and strengthen international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, where appropriate, as an essential part of successful crop control strategies, in order to increase the positive outcomes of such programmes, especially in areas affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

19. *Encourages* Member States with extensive expertise in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to continue sharing, upon request, best practices, promoting research to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation and fostering and strengthening international cooperation, including cross-continental and interregional cooperation, and subregional and regional technical cooperation on integral and sustainable alternative development, which includes in some cases preventive alternative development.

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[14] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.